

The Strategic Skills Initiative was developed by Governor Mitch Daniels to address Indiana's critical job shortages and to increase opportunities and wages for Hoosier workers. Throughout the state, money has been awarded and solutions identified to encourage economic growth and better paying jobs across the state's 11 economic growth regions. **(shots of b-roll of several different occupations/students).**

In 2006, the Indiana Department of Workforce Development invested more than \$14 million throughout the state for the initiative. The initial investment, to be followed up by a continuing effort, will ensure that Hoosiers have access to high skill, high wage jobs for the future. **(graphic or b-roll)**

The initiative focuses on key industries around Indiana, including Health Care. At Vincennes University, part of the Strategic Skills Initiative money is being used in the Health Care field to better educate students in the nursing program through an advanced training simulator known as SimMan. SimMan provides simulation-based education to challenge and test students' clinical and decision-making skills using realistic patient care scenarios. He can talk, breathe, and has vital signs, just like a real patient. Jane Teik (*sp?*. *Title?*) says SimMan is a great training tool for students. **(VU b-roll)**

**Soundbite:** Jane Teik : "It's a thrill having high-tech equipment...OUT: ....makes the experience more real for students.

The Vincennes University nursing faculty demonstrate a shortened situation with SimMan that they would utilize with students. Jane will operate SimMan and monitor his vital signs on the computer. Jeanna Lisman will be the student nurse; Chris Lafferty will be the nurse on duty; and Jana Viek will be acting the part of a concerned family member of the patient. **(VU b-roll)**

**(shots w/nat sound of the scenario taking place)**

Vincennes University also utilizes SimBaby in their teaching. SimBaby is an infant manikin that allows students to practice scenarios with an infant.

**(SimBaby b-roll)** It was also acquired through the Strategic Skills Initiative. **(nat of baby crying)**

This is just one of many successes throughout the state of Indiana that the Strategic Skills Initiative is providing. This investment will ensure that Hoosiers will have access to high skill and high wage jobs far into the future. **(VU b-roll)**

**Soundbite** (Teik): "We're just so thrilled with the grant.....it made this program even better."

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